TIMOTHY R. RICE

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United States Magistrate Judge Timothy R. Rice, 47, graduated magna cum laude in 1986 from the Temple University School of Law, where he served as editor-in-chief of the Temple Law Review. He served as law clerk to the Hon. Anthony J. Scirica on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania from 1986-87, and on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit from 1987-88.

From 1988 to 2005, Judge Rice served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Most recently, he served as chief of the Criminal Division from 2002-05, and previously supervised the Financial Institution Fraud Section and the Public Corruption Section at the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Chambers Staff

Patricia Furlong, Esq., Law Clerk Sean O'Connell, Esq., Law Clerk Chavela Settles, Deputy Clerk

General Matters

1. Professionalism

All counsel and parties are expected to conduct themselves in a civil, polite, and professional manner at all times. All proceedings will begin at the scheduled time and punctuality is expected.

2. Courtroom Conduct

All lawyers and parties are expected stand when addressing the Court, the jury, or any witness. Use of computer technology to display evidence and exhibits is strongly encouraged.

3. *Court Filings*

All pleadings should be filed electronically with the Clerk of the Court. Courtesy copies are optional.

4. Discovery Disputes

Discovery should be conducted in a voluntary, candid, cooperative, and timely manner. Written motions normally are not required. Discovery disputes will be resolved during pre-trial conferences, or if necessary, on telephone conferences. Formal discovery motions should be filed only after Court orders or directives are violated.

5. Settlement Conferences

Lead counsel must attend the settlement conference with the parties and with the person or persons having full authority to negotiate and settle the case unless prior permission to participate via telephone has been granted. Prior to the conference, counsel shall submit a conference summary on the forms provided with the order scheduling the settlement conference.

6. Civil Consent Trials

Upon referral of a civil consent trial, a pretrial conference will be conducted and an order entered advising counsel of the court's expectations with regard to any outstanding discovery, evidentiary, or scheduling issues. Trial memos highlighting anticipated factual, legal, or evidentiary issues are helpful. Requests for trial continuances are discouraged, absent a showing of good cause.